

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the portions of the Specification identified below to read as indicated herein.

Paragraph beginning at page 4, line 20:

In Figure 1, a ~~semiconductor chip~~ laser medium 10 is provided as, e.g., a semiconductor active laser gain medium, ~~having~~ has a front surface 10A and a back facet 10 B. While the front surface 10A is preferably anti-reflection coated, the back facet is preferably provided with a high reflectivity (HR) coating. A laser beam leaving the ~~semiconductor chip~~ laser medium 10 through the front surface 10A is passed through a lens 20 and a wavelength tunable filter 30 to a cavity end mirror 40 having a semitransparent front surface 40A. A portion of the laser beam is reflected by the front surface 40A back towards the wavelength tunable filter 30, while another portion is coupled out by the cavity end mirror 40 as a first output beam 50.

Paragraph beginning at page 5, line 3:

The optical path between the front surface 40A and the back facet 10B provides the cavity of the laser, whereby the optical path between the front surface 40A of the cavity end mirror 40 and the front surface 10A of the ~~semiconductor chip~~ laser medium 10 represents an external cavity.

Paragraph beginning at page 6, line 22:

The first output signal 50 provides a high-purity signal with respect to wavelength purity and signal-to-noise ratio, since it is coupled out directly behind the wavelength tunable filter 30 and before returning into the ~~semiconductor chip~~ laser medium 10 and being amplified again. The second output signal 60, in contrast thereto, provides a high power output at a significantly higher potential output power than the first output signal 50 but also with higher source spontaneous emission (SSE).

Paragraph beginning at page 8, line 20:

Figure 4 shows a preferred embodiment of the cavity end mirror 30_40. Instead of providing the cavity end mirror 30_40 as being a planar mirror, it can also provided as be a curved mirror, preferably together with a focussing optics 400. The focal length of the focussing optics 400, e.g. a lens, should be matched to the mirror curve radius.

Paragraph beginning at page 8, line 24:

In a further embodiment, the cavity end mirror 30_40 is provided as a three-dimensional retro reflector (triangular prism), preferably as an open corner cube or a solid glass corner cube e.g. a corner cube prism U43 as provided by Edmund Industrie Optic GmbH. In case of the embodiment of Figure 2, wherein the front surface 40A is provided to be fully reflective, all surfaces of the three-dimensional retro reflector or solid glass corner cube are provided with 100% reflectivity. In case of the embodiments of Figure 1 or 3, at least one surface of the three-dimensional retro reflector has to be semitransparent.